

Remarks

Prior to this communication, claims 1 – 20, and 22 – 24 are pending. Claims 1 – 20, and 22 – 24 were rejected. By this amendment, claims 1 – 9, 11 – 20, and 22 – 24 have been amended; and claim 10 has been cancelled. Examination and reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 1 – 20, and 22 – 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,715,850 (“Diaz”) and in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,701,231 (“Do”).

Although Applicants disagree with the Examiner’s characterization of the teachings of Diaz and Do, Applicants have amended claims 1 – 9, 11 – 20, and 22 – 24 in hope to advance the prosecution of the application.

Amended claim 1 is directed to “[a] gaming machine” that includes, among other things, “a housing,” “a game control board,” “a box-shaped structure disposed within the gaming machine and enclosing the game control board.” The box-shaped structure further includes, among other things, “first and second members ... said game control board fixedly positioned on said first member, ... and said first member moveable to a closed position relative to said second member in which said first and second members define a volume, and to an open position in which said first member is displaced with respect to said second member,” and “a lid.”

Diaz does not teach or suggest all elements of claim 1.

Rather, with respect to FIG. 4 and FIG. 6, Diaz discloses a computer 10 has a housing 12 that has side wall 28 which includes a vertically extending flange portion 41 from wall 28. (Col. 4, lines 31 – 42.) With respect to FIG. 7, the computer 10 has a bay 300 to access a motherboard 350 through an opening 300 of the wall 28. The opening 300 is removeably covered by a door 312. (Col. 6, lines 55 – 59.) That is, the door 312 provides an access to the motherboard 350

inside the housing 12. The motherboard is not fixedly positioned on the door 312. Instead, the motherboard 350 is mounted on the interior wall surface 353 of housing lateral side wall 26. (Col. 7, lines 19 – 22.) As such, Diaz does not teach or suggest, among other things, “a box-shaped structure” having “first and second members ... said game control board fixedly positioned on said first member,” as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, Diaz does not teach or suggest, among other things, “a lid positionable relative to said first and second members for closing said access opening and defining said volume when said first member is in said closed position,” as recited in claim 1.

Diaz does not teach or suggest, among other things, “[a] gaming machine” that includes, among other things, “a housing,” “a game control board,” “a box-shaped structure disposed within the gaming machine and enclosing the game control board,” as recited in claim 1. Diaz does not disclose a gaming machine, not to mention that the claimed structure is enclosed within the housing of the gaming machine, that the claimed control board is enclosed within the claimed structure, and that the claimed first member is hingedly attached to the claimed structure. That is, Diaz does not disclose any enclosure within the housing 12. Accordingly, it would not have been obvious for Diaz to have any member of an enclosure within the housing 12 to be displaced.

As such, claim 1 and dependent claims 2 – 9, 11 – 19, 23, and 24 are patentable in view of Diaz. Claims 1 – 9, 11 – 19, 23, and 24 are therefore allowable for at least the reasons set forth above.

Do does not cure the deficiencies of Diaz.

Rather, Do discloses an enclosure 11 for a personal computer. The enclosure 11 includes two portions that are connected with hinges 21a and 21b.

Do does not teach or suggest, “[a] gaming machine” that includes, among other things, “a housing,” “a game control board,” “a box-shaped structure disposed within the gaming machine and enclosing the game control board,” “a box-shaped structure” having “first and second members ... said game control board fixedly positioned on said first member,” and “a lid

positionable relative to said first and second members for closing said access opening and defining said volume when said first member is in said closed position,” as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, neither Diaz nor Do, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests all elements of claim 1. As such, claim 1 and dependent claims 2 – 9, 11 – 19, 23, and 24 are patentable in view of Diaz and Do. Claims 1 – 9, 11 – 19, 23, and 24 are therefore allowable for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claim 20 is similarly directed to “[a] gaming machine” that includes “a game control board including a processor configured to control a game on the gaming machine,” “an enclosure enclosing the game control board,” and the enclosure includes “displaceable and side members defining an access opening, said game control board fixedly positioned on the displaceable member, said displaceable member hingedly attached to said side member, and said displaceable member displaceably moveable to a closed position relative to the side member of the enclosure in which said displaceable and side members define a volume, and to an open position in which said displaceable member is displaced with respect to said side member; and a lid positionable relative to said enclosure for closing said enclosure and defining said volume when said displaceable member is in said close position.”

Accordingly, claim 20 and dependent claim 22 are allowable for at least the same reason set forth above with respect to claim 1.

No new matter has been added.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that all of claims 1 – 9, 11 – 20, and 22 – 24 are allowable. In the event that the Examiner believes a telephone interview with the undersigned Applicant's Representative would be helpful in advancing prosecution of this patent application, the undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

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